SEG news release

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INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC CREW COUNT

WORLDWIDE SEISMIC EXPLORATION FOR OIL AND GAS RECORDS DECLINE DURING SECOND QUARTER OF 1979

Worldwide exploration for oil and natural gas, though posting a sizeable gain in the U.S., declined in most other reporting regions during the second quarter of this year according to a report released today by the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. The worldwide total of seismic land crews and marine vessels active during June, 1979, was 731, representing a decrease of thirty-six crews and vessels since March. The March, 1979, total was 767. The largest single decline was reported in Canada where the June total was forty, down from 101 in March.

The worldwide totals of seismic crews and vessels active during previous quarters were as follows: Third quarter (September) 1976: 621; fourth quarter (December) 1976: 621; first quarter (March) 1977: 635; second quarter (June) 1977: 626; third quarter (September) 1977: 650; fourth quarter (December) 1977: 686; first quarter (March, 1978: 730; second quarter (June) 1978: 738; third quarter (September) 1978: 746; fourth quarter (December) 1978: 744.

The international survey reflects data reported on seismic oil exploration activity by ninety private and governmental crew operators around the world. Special significance is attached to the figures since seismic crew activity is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC CREW COUNT, JUNE, 1979

Geographically, seismic exploration for oil and gas during June, 1979, was reported as follows. (First quarter, March, 1979, figures are shown in parentheses.):

UNITED STATES

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
56 Contractors:	333 (295)	26 (24)
9 Oil Companies:	39 (37)	5 (7)
1 Government:	0 (0)	1 (1)
Totals:	372 (332)	32 (32)

Total Crews and Vessels: 404 (364)

CANADA

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
20 Contractors:	35 (98)	1 (0)
3 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	1 (0)
Totals:	38 (101)	2 (0)

Total Crews and Vessels: 40 (101)

MEXICO

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
7 Contractors:	21*(19)*	3*(3)*
1 Government:	5*(5)*	0*(0)*
0 Oil Companies:	0 (0)	0 (0)
Totals:	26* (24)*	3*(3)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 29*(27)*

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA (Other than Mexico)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
9 Contractors:	36 (33)	4 (9)
4 Governments:	7* (9)*	0* (0)*
2 Oil Companies:	2* (2)*	1* (1)*
Totals:	45* (44)*	5* (10)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 50*(54)*

EUROPE

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
11 Contractors:	43* (42)*	17* (11)*
0 Governments:	0 (0)	0 (0)
3 Oil Companies:	4* (4)	1 (0)
Totals:	47* (46)*	18* (11)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 65*(57)*

MIDDLE EAST (Including Pakistan)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
7 Contractors:	29 (32)	1 (2)
0 Governments:	0* (0)*	0* (0)*
0 Oil Companies:	0* (0)*	0* (0)*
Totals:	29* (32)*	1* (2)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 30*(34)*

AFRICA

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
6 Contractors:	40 (44)	3 (7)
1 Government:	2* (2)*	0* (0)*
1 Oil Company:	11 (11)	0 (0)
Totals:	53* (57)*	3* (7)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 56*(64)*

FAR EAST (Including all countries east of Pakistan)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
9 Contractors	32* (28)*	9* (8)*
2 Governments:	10* (24)*	1* (1)*
1 Oil Company:	3* (3)*	2* (2)*
Totals:	45* (55)*	12* (11)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 57*(66)*

JUNE TOTALS:	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
U.S.	372 (332)	32 (32)
Canada	38 (101)	2 (0)
Mexico	26* (24)*	3* (3)*
Central & South America	45* (44)*	5* (10)*
Europe	47* (46)*	18* (11)*
Middle East	29* (32)*	1* (2)*
Africa	53* (57)*	3* (7)*
Far East	45* (55)*	12* (11)*
Totals:	655* (691)*	76* (76)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 731*(767)*

*These totals include estimates from informed industry sources of additional unreported crews and vessels.

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